

STK-071 CPA2 (CRP-137 CPA2)

N THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICERECEIVED

Examiner

David Romeo

NOV 1 0 2003

Group Art Unit :

1647

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Applicants :

David C. Rueger et al.

Application No.: 08/822,186

Confirmation No.:

Filed

March 20, 1997

For

IMPROVED OSTEOGENIC DEVICES AND METHODS OF USE THEREOF FOR REPAIR OF ENDOCHONDRAL BONE, OSTEOCHONDRAL AND CHONDRAL DEFECTS

> New York, New York November 3, 2003

Hon. Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

This is in reply to the July 1, 2003 Office Action in the above-identified application. Applicants submit concurrently herewith a Petition under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) and the fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(1) to extend the time for replying to the Office Action for a period of one month up to and including November 3, 2003 (November 1, 2003 being a Saturday).